

52:11-55. Legislative Services Commission, Office of Legislative Services

There is established in the Legislative Branch of the State Government, to aid and assist the Legislature in performing its functions, an agency of the Legislature, to be known as the "Office of Legislative Services" to be governed by a commission to be known as the Legislative Services Commission, hereinafter referred to as "the commission," to consist of eight members of the Senate to be appointed by the President thereof and eight members of the General Assembly to be appointed by the Speaker thereof for terms coextensive with their respective terms as members of the House from which they shall be appointed. All members shall serve until the appointment and qualification of their respective successors. Vacancies in the membership of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired terms in the same manner as the original appointments were made. No more than four of each group of eight members shall be appointed from members of the same political party. The commission and the agency shall be deemed to be a continuous body and no action taken by the commission or the office shall be abrogated by reason of the termination of the terms of the members of the commission.

L.1979, c. 8, s. 2.

52:11-56. Organization and meetings of the commission

Organization and meetings of the commission. a. The commission shall meet for the purpose of organization in the month of January of each even-numbered year and shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its members, who shall hold office for the duration of that two-year Legislature and after the expiration of the second legislative year until their successors shall be elected and qualify. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

b. Nine members of the commission shall constitute a quorum and no matter requiring action by the full commission shall be taken except by the affirmative vote of not less than nine members. The commission may create from among its membership and prescribe the jurisdiction of an executive committee and such other standing and special committees, which shall be composed of members equally divided between the two Houses and the two major political parties, and delegate to such committees, its chairman and vice-chairman and executive director specified authority to act for the commission.

c. In addition to its organization meetings, the commission shall meet at least once in each calendar quarter and at other times at the call of its chairman. Upon the written request of at least nine members the secretary shall notice a special meeting of the commission.

L. 1979, c. 8, s. 3. Amended by L. 1985, c. 162, s. 1, eff. May 2, 1985.

52:11-57. Duties of the commission

Duties of the commission. a. It is the duty and responsibility of the commission:

(1) To carry on the work of continuous revision of the general and permanent statute law of the State, by causing to be conducted a continuous examination thereof and of the judicial decisions

construing the same, and by causing to be prepared and to be submitted to the Legislature for its action thereon from time to time legislative bills designed to revise such portions of the general and permanent statute law as in the judgment of the commission may be necessary to remedy defects therein, to accomplish improvement thereof and to maintain the same in revised, consolidated and simplified form under the general plan and classification of the Revised Statutes;

(2) To provide accurate budgetary, fiscal and program performance, evaluation and analysis, legal assistance, information and advice and informatory and research services to the standing reference, joint and special legislative committees and commissions and to the officers and members of the Legislature;

(3) To study the methods, practices and procedures employed by the Legislature and from time to time make such recommendations for their improvement and modernization as the commission shall deem desirable;

(4) Through the Office of Legislative Services to plan, provide for and coordinate administrative, housekeeping and other general services on behalf of the Legislature in the areas of purchasing, data processing, facilities, public educational programs and legislative district offices in accordance with the joint rules governing the operation of the district offices.

b. The commission is hereby designated as the permanent law revision agency of the State and all proposed revision laws and proposals of like character which are developed as a result of any legislative commission or committee shall be submitted to the commission for examination and study and report, including its recommendations, to the Legislature, before being introduced in the Legislature.

c. The officers and employees of the Office of Legislative Services shall, except as otherwise fixed by law, receive such compensation as shall from time to time be fixed by the commission in accordance with a compensation plan to be established by it and as shall be within the limits of available appropriations therefor.

L. 1979, c. 8, s. 4. Amended by L. 1985, c. 162, s. 2, eff. May 2, 1985.